



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY REFRESHER INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

Mission Statement:

The intent of annual fireline safety refresher training is to focus line-going personnel on operations and decision-making issues related to fireline and all-hazard incident safety. Refresher training will ensure firefighters have information regarding current initiatives and the upcoming fire season. Refresher training is provided in order to recognize and mitigate risk, maintain safe practices, and reduce accidents and near misses.

The 2015 Fire Refresher was built for firefighters, by firefighters.

<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/>



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Notes to Instructor

Introduction

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training is required for all personnel participating in wildland fire who may be subject to assignments on the fireline. Check specific agency policy at the WFSTAR website to determine if this training package meets refresher training requirements of all the attendees.

Expectations

*****THIS IS NOT A PLUG AND PLAY PRODUCT. INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION AND STUDENT INTERACTION IS REQUIRED*****

Instructors should facilitate a quality refresher that engages all students no matter their ICS qualification or firefighting experience. The success of this program is dependent on your ability to stimulate meaningful discussion during group exercises. Classes with a wide array of experiences and qualifications can provide an excellent opportunity for the less experienced to be mentored and for the more experienced to rethink old habits.

Instructor Prerequisites

Lead instructors must be at least Single Resource Boss (SRB) qualified, and unit instructors must be at least Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) qualified.

Adjunct instructors may be utilized to provide limited instruction in specialized knowledge and skills at the discretion of the lead instructor. They must be experienced, proficient and knowledgeable of current issues in their field of expertise.

All instructors will need the knowledge and skills to utilize current educational technology, as it relates to the WFSTAR website. Examples would be streaming and downloading interactive videos as well as the use of apps and mobile devices.



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Equipment and Materials

A list of equipment and other material required for course presentation includes:

- Media player
- Instructor Guide, Student Workbooks from WFSTAR [website](#)
- *Incident Response Pocket Guide* one for each student
- Sign-in sheet/training documentation form
- Flip chart(s) with paper and marking pens
- Download modules from WFSTAR website
- Optional: *New Generation Fire Shelter* video, NFES #2711
- Optional: *The New Generation Fire Shelter* booklet, NFES #2710

Administration

The instructor is responsible for identifying necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. The instructor is also responsible for recording attendance and assuring that evaluations are completed and returned:

ON THE WEB: http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/contact_comments.html

BY MAIL: NWCG Training Development

Attn. Scott Anderson

3833 S. Development Avenue

Boise, ID 83705

BY FAX: (208) 387-5378

BY E-MAIL: s80ander@blm.gov

If all modules are utilized, the length of this program is approximately four hours, depending on time allowed for exercises. Additional time will be needed for the fire shelter deployment practice.

Encourage the students to explore the new [Tech Tools](#) web page on the WFSTAR website. Tech tools purpose is to provide a place for firefighters to get technology that helps them do their job safer and more efficiently.



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Module - Margins

Overview

Students will grasp the concept of margins and apply it to create decision space in their complex and dynamic work environments

Target Audience: Wildland Firefighters

Time: Video 7 minutes

Exercise: 15 minutes



Instructor Tasks



- Introduce the goal listed above
- Divide the students into small groups after watching the video and work through the discussion as outlined in the exercise below
- Have the students use the QR code to evaluate the module

Module Evaluation QR code





INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Exercise/Discussion:

Exercise: Take 15 minutes and complete the following exercise

Building margins is about taking deliberate actions that give you time to think and act safely in complex and dynamic environments while accounting for human error. It is a safety net for the risky act of walking over the chasm of bad outcomes on the high wire of uncertainty.

1. What are you already doing personally or with your home unit that is increasing margin for you and /or your crew? Think of a couple of examples and share them with the group.

Consider:

- Personal financial health
- Personal relationships. Are they in need of maintenance?
- Attitude
- Mental and physical fitness
- Group conditions
- Organizational conditions

As a group discuss how you might continue to build margin for you and your crew

Consider:

- Before the fire season
- During the fire season
- After the fire season

2. We cannot expect to build margin while we are working if we haven't practiced how to do it.
 - a. What are the strategies or practices you plan to implement to help build margin in real time while you are engaged in work? Share with your group two things you will do.
 - b. A great tickler is "Take 5 at 2"; it is a practice that you can literally set your watch to. It initiates a time to reflect, reassess and if necessary change your behavior.



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Instructor Notes

